

Tioga County Public Health Department

Lisa C. McCafferty, R.S., MPH; Public Health Director 1062 State Route 38, PO Box 120, Owego, NY 13827 607-687-8600



PRESS RELEASE

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Contact: Kylie Holochak, 607-687-8612 Senior Public Health Educator/PIO

Tioga County COVID-19 Update for August 13 - 27, 2021

The following is a breakdown of COVID-19 cases in Tioga County from August 13, 2021 to August 27, 2021:

• New Cases: 101

Unvaccinated: 51Vaccinated: 27

Children Under 12: 14Partially Vaccinated: 5

Unknown Vaccination Status: 4

• Hospitalizations: 3

• **Deaths:** 2 (both unvaccinated)

Vaccination status is <u>self-reported</u> by the positive case or their parent/guardian during the case investigation. Several factors may impact ones protection against COVID-19 including which vaccine they got and how long it has been since they received it. While the COVID-19 vaccine is not full proof in preventing the spread of COVID-19, it does offer protection against severe illness, hospitalization, and death.

On Friday, August 27, New York State announced that "any person over the age of 2 (including all students, personnel, teachers, administrators, contractors, and visitors) must wear masks at all times indoors in P-12 school buildings, regardless of vaccination status." We are hopeful that the combination of wearing masks and social distancing during the school day will greatly reduce the number of students, teachers, and staff needing to quarantine when a positive case is identified in a school. Our goal is to maximize in-person learning in schools, however, each situation will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis to ensure the appropriate individuals are guarantined.

With schools going back in session next week and with Tioga County having a high level of community transmission of COVID-19, we encourage everyone over the age of 12 to get vaccinated as soon as possible. To find a location near you offering vaccines, please visit https://www.vaccines.gov/search/.

Martha Sauerbrey, Tioga County Legislative Chair encourages the community to follow CDC recommendations to minimize the spread of Covid-19 in Tioga County. **If you are sick, please stay home!** If you are having symptoms, contact your health care provider and get tested, even if you are vaccinated. "I know this has been a long and difficult time for all of us and I understand some of you are losing your patience. If we hang on a little longer we will move on to a better day."

Please check our Facebook page (@Tioga County Public Health) and our website: ph.tiogacountyny.gov for future updates.